FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

16 JANUARY 1986

PDRY

Representatives of rebel troops and forces loyal to Chairman 'Ali Nasir Muhammad met in the Soviet Embassy 16 January in an attempt to negotiate a cease-fire, KUNA reported citing a French source in Paris. The Soviet mediation effort coincided with Premier Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas' arrival in Moscow, where he is expected to hold talks with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, the agency added. Soviet Deputy Defense Minister Vladimir Govorov had earlier denied any Soviet role in the coup attempt, stressing the Soviet policy of noninterference in other countries' affairs, KUNA noted. Sources cited by KUNA also revealed that 'Ali Nasir Muhammad has not been injured, disclosing that he announced his forces were in control of the situation in a speech broadcast by a local radio. KUNA said the official radio has been shut down by a power failure in the capital, and Aden radio remained unheard throughout 15 January. The Kuwaiti newspaper *AL-SIYASAH* confirmed that Defense Minister Salih Muslih Qasim led the rebel forces, which achieved initial successes before the situation altered early 15 January, QNA noted. Radio Monte Carlo cited a news agency report that "fierce battles" resumed the morning of 16 January and that fighting has spread to all six governorates in the country. As for Libya's offer to send a peacekeeping force to the PDRY via the YAR, Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi indicated in a speech broadcast by Tripoli television that Salih did not agree to the proposal because of concern that such a move would be construed as interference by the north in the affairs of the south.

Lebanon

Elie Hubayqah informed the Army commander and Christian political leaders of his resignation as chairman of the Lebanese Forces Executive Committee and of his intention to leave Lebanon according to sources at the Presidential Palace cited by Beirut radio 16 January. Radio Free Lebanon subsequently reported his departure for Cyprus. The Lebanese Army had earlier transferred Hubayqah to the Defense Ministry from his besieged headquarters, an operation which put an end to the clashes in the Christian sector, Voice of Lebanon radio reported. Most of Hubayqah's positions were seized in the fighting by forces loyal to the Phalangist Party and to Lebanese Forces Chief of Staff Samir Ja'ja', Beirut radio disclosed, adding that 200 people were killed and 600 were wounded in the clashes.

"Nationalist" forces attempted to advance from the east and the north into the Christian sector under cover of artillery fire, Beirut radio reported. Although the clandestine Voice of the Mountain radio said the nationalists were advancing swiftly on roads to Jubayl and Bikfayya, Radio Free Lebanon dismissed reports of gains by leftist organizations and the Voice of Lebanon likewise reported that the Lebanese Army repulsed attacks by gunmen east of Bikfayya.

Libya

Libya offers to train Arabs in "suicide missions" and "fedayeen work" and will provide the weapons required to carry out such operations, Col al-Qadhdhafi said in a speech broadcast by Tripoli television. The Libyan leader added that the Mediterranean will become a "zone of all-out war" if the United States attacks Libya. Al-Qadhdhafi said the support of the "Arab Nation" for Libya will be "put to the test" when the Arab league foreign ministers meet in Tunis 22 January.

Meanwhile, the Syrian prime minister termed U.S.-Israeli "threats" against Libya and Syria "political and military terrorism," adding that Israel and the United States realize that any aggressive moves would be "very costly," SANA reported.

Kuwait-USSR

Kuwait and the USSR discussed the possibility of Soviet "air weapons" being supplied to the Kuwaiti Army, Soviet Deputy Defense Minister Govorov said in response to a journalist's question at the end of his 6-day visit to Kuwait, KUNA reported.

Egypt

President Husni Mubarak, in a magazine interview reported by MENA, said he was saddened by those who attempted to "exploit" the death of Sulayman Khatir. Those who "twist facts" should realize that the government cannot "bear it any longer," Mubarak said, and those who publish false statements about Egypt should realize that there is a "grave alternative to democratic choice."

Iran-Pakistan

Talks on expanded political and economic relations between Iran and Pakistan were "constructive," Iranian President 'Ali Khamene'i said at a press conference on the final day of his visit to Pakistan, IRNA reported.

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South Asia

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Babrak Karmal Interviewed by Japanese Daily ASAHI
LD141144 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0512 GMT 14 Jan 86

[Text] Kabul, January 13, BAKHTAR — Following is the full text of a press interview of Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, granted to Hiroki Ezawa a reporter of daily *ASAHI*, one of the mass-circulated dailies in Japan.

[Ezawa] Please let me know your estimations of the results of USSR and U.S. summit meeting. Has the summit changed any political situations around Afghanistan affairs?

[Karmal] The PDPA, the state and the people of DRA warmly welcome the agreements reached during Geneva talks specially its emphasis on prevention of any kind of military conflict between the Soviet Union and the United States the bilateral agreement on not showing tendency to acquire military superiority over each other. The consolidation of the regime of non-proliferation of nuclear arms and the need for a complete and universal ban on chemical weapon. We regard these talks as highly significant. Sincere implementation of Geneva resolutions in practice is regarded as an important step towards improvement of the international situation, prevention of arms race as well as of nuclear catastrophe.

The peace-loving people of the DRA who resolutely struggle for ensuring peace and building a new society in the country while supporting the peaceful foreign policy of the state of the DRA, welcome with great hope any measure practical and acceptable initiative and proposal for ensuring a lasting peace in the world: which is the noble and righteous demand of all peoples of the world.

However, there is a great difference between words and deeds. The agreements reached become significant only when they are translated into practice. Unfortunately, lately there are signs showing that the Reagan administration is acting contrary to the Geneva accords. [Words indistinct] prevention of expansion of arms race to the outer space, 50 percent reduction is [as received] the U.S.-USSR nuclear arms and complete ban on nuclear tests, the United States could take concrete steps towards a new atmosphere in the relation between the two countries: the atmosphere emanating from Geneva talks.

Concerning the second part of your question, it should be said that obviously, the improvement of relations of the two major countries of the world would bear positive results on world situation in general and on various regions of the world in particular.

[Ezawa] Though three of the four instruments of a package settlement on Afghanistan have been agreed, 6th round negotiations in Geneva, which had been said to discuss the possible withdrawal of Soviet forces, ended without any clear progress. Based on the treaty of friendship, good neighbourliness and cooperation, Soviets have been supporting Afghanistan. At this moment, what conditions are required for the reduction of Soviet military support?

[Karmal] During the Geneva talks between the delegation of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan and Pakistan, so far three documents, on all-sided political settlement, have been almost finalized. These three documents are: agreement concerning the normalization of relations particularly non-intervention and non-interference in the internal affairs, agreement on the voluntary return of the refugees to the country and the document on international guarantees about non-intervention and non-interference. Basic agreements have been reached on these three documents and there are only very few points which need to be finalized during the direct talks between the two countries. The fourth document at issue is about the mutual relationship between the agreement on non-intervention and non-interference, agreement on the return of refugees and international guarantees on the one side, and the return of the limited Soviet military contingents from the DRA to their peace-loving country on the other. The issue of the return of the limited military continents of the Soviet Union is a matter which solely concerns to the DRA and the Soviet Union.

The sixth round of Geneva talks between the delegations of the two countries did not come to conclusion without progress. In our view, this round of talks too was useful. During the talks, general discussions were conducted and further understanding was reached among others on the document about international guarantees and the document No 4.

As it was repeatedly declared by the Government of the DRA, whenever armed encroachments and other kinds of interference are effectively [words indistinct] in the internal affairs of the DRA and reliable international guarantees are provided on their cessation and non-recurrance, the limited contingents of the Soviet Union, which were invited to Afghanistan on the request of the legitimate Government of the DRA, on the basis of the treaty of friendship, cooperation and good-neighbourliness concluded between the DRA and the Soviet Union, and in conformity with Article 51 of the United Nations Charter, will return back to their peace loving country.

[Ezawa] Are you preparing to offer these conditions at the next Geneva talk, which might be held at the end of February or March next year?

[Karmal] As I pointed out earlier, the conditions for the return of the limited military contingents of the Soviet Union from the DRA is quite clear. The limited military contingents of the Soviet Union have been invited temporarily to DRA, as a result of foreign encroachments which threatened the independence, national sovereignty and territorial integrity of the DRA, to support the people and the Armed Forces of the DRA in repulsing the foreign interference.

Whenever this cause is ceased to exist and reliable international guarantees are provided on the complete cessation and non-recurrance of interference from abroad, the effect will disappear by itself and as it was clearly declared on [words indistinct] us and that of the Soviet Union, the limited Soviet military contingents will return back to their peace-loving country.

The general outlines on a comprehensive solution of the situation around Afghanistan, which will pave the ground for the return

of the limited military contingents of the Soviet Union, are vividly elucidated in the known declarations of the Government of the DRA dated 14 May 1980 and 24 August 1981. The documents on non-intervention and non-interference and international guarantees, which came nearer to final conclusion during the Geneva talks, envisage the creation of necessary grounds for such a solution.

[Ezawa] Afghanistan has been demanding direct negotiation with Pakistan, because direct talks would be more effective and mutually well understandable but Pakistan side has refused direct talk, so far. Can we expect any compromise, for example, style of negotiation? Is there any possibility of partial and gradual withdrawal of Soviet forces?

[Karmal] We have always expressed our wish for direct and useful talks with Pakistan. Principally, it is the mandate of the United Nation's secretary general and his envoy to bring the two sides on the negotiation table. Since the very beginning of the process of Geneva talks, we reiterated on the need to conduct direct talks. In our view, direct talks is not only more effective, time-saving, and prevents misunderstanding, but direct talks in itself is a great step towards the normalization of relations.

Concerning the second part of your question, as I pointed out earlier, whenever the cause, i.e., the interference is ceased to exist and reliable international guarantees are provided about their full cessation and non-recurrence, the effect will disappear by itself.

[Ezawa] Mr Gorbachev, general secretary of Communist Party of USSR, has recently hinted that Afghanistan issues could be settled through political means. How do you estimate such remarks by Mr. Gorbachev? Has he offered any concrete proposal to you for Afghanistan settlement after the Geneva summit?

[Karmal] The statements of Comrade Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU CC, in this regard which was reflected in his report to the Supreme Soviet of the Soviet Union are indicative of the continuation of the principled policy of the Soviet Union in connection with the situation around Afghanistan. The Soviet Union has always resolutely supported the political solution of the situation around Afghanistan and also the process of talks between the DRA and Pakistan. We have full conformity of view with the Soviet Union and always have had exchange of views on those questions which concern both the countries and which are of mutual interests. The governments of both the countries stress on the need of reaching a political solution through negotiation and believe that such solution is in the interest of all the peoples of the region and that of security and stabilization in the region and internaitonal peace and security.

The governments of both the countries have always had common and single position on this regard.

[Ezawa] U.S. State Department has recently announced that U.S. had sent a letter to general secretary of UN to make it clear that U.S. was ready to guarantee the whole political settlement of Afghanistan. May I have your comment on it?

[Karmal] In our view, what has been provided by the United Statesunder the name of "guarantee" is too far from meeting the need for real guarantee for ending the situation that has emerged around Afghanistan.

The United States under the cover of the so-called "guarantees" and by following and continuing an aggressive and interventionist policy against our revolutionary country, has offered conditions which in fact is completing the role of Washington as a direct commander of the undeclared war against our people, homeland and revolution. In the conditions offered the United States once again has been stubbornly and demogogically has ignored the gains of the April National Democratic Revolution, as well as the realities of our revolution and society.

In the said conditions, the interests of the vast masses of people of Afghanistan has been put on an equal footing with the interests of the counter-revolutionary bands, Washington is trying to give recognition to the criminal counter-revolutionary bands as "freedom fighters". This means to give recognition to those who commit the most [word indistinct] and homeside, resort to conspiracy, subversion, robbery and are offending the rights and freedoms of our working people every day without any shame, those whose true faces have been recognised by our free-born people as anti-social, anti-freedom, anti-human and as mercenaries of imperialism and reaction as well as enemies of our homeland and revolution.

The Washington Administration over-looking the fact that the April Revolution triumphed on the basis of the laws of development of the Afghan society, on the basis of the will of Afghan people, as a long-cherished historic aspiration has been trying in vain to bring about a so-called "democratic reconciliation" between the over-thrown exploiting classes and all the working people of our country, so as to once again be able to bring to power his subservient agents over the destiny of our freeborn people. The masters of the White House have forgotten that we have vividly declared the positions of the DRA state in the extraordinary extended session of the Revolutionary Council of the DRA convened on Aqrab 18 (Nov.9) 1985 on matters concerning nation-wide peace and national understanding.

The so-called "democratic reconciliation" presented by Washington is an American reconciliation. That is an instrument for the predatory interests of U.S. imperialism which is far from true peace.

[Ezawa] According to PDPA announcement, your government may invite the representatives of various groups, classes of Afghan people to join the government. May we assume that you are now ready to invite some groups including anti-government guerrillas?

[Karmal] The April Revolution triumphed to ensure interests of the Afghan masses and is growing and developing in this direction. Therefore all these patriots who believe and are loyal to the lofty aspirations of the revolution, have the right and should participate in the construction of new and Democratic Afghanistan.

The revolutionary power has been persistently trying to pave the grounds ever-wider attraction of its political allies and to further consolidate, deepen and expand the social bases of the DRA Government. Therefore, based on the declaration of the Revolutionary Council of the DRA (dated November 14, 1985) and in accordance to the national-democratic character of the April Revolution all the true patriots, representative of all social groups and strata of the country are widly attracted in running the state affairs as well as in political, economic, social and cultural activities.

Right now, as you may have heard last week through the mass media of our country a number of these representatives have been appointed in the composition of Council of Ministers of the DRA and other high-ranking government posts and it is considered that the composition of the Revolutionary Council of the DRA should expand with the participation of influential representatives and of various classes, strata, nationalities, tribes and clans of Afghan society as well as national trade and [word indistinct] circles, the intellectuals and craftsmen.

In the revolutionary Afghanistan real democracy, meaning peoples sovereignity, will be realized by ensuring equal participation of all inhabitants of the country in the political, economic and social affairs.

The elections for local organs of state power and administration have been already completed in a number of provinces and are gradually being held in other provinces. Massive and enthusiastic participation of the people in electing their authoritative representatives for local councils is a clear manifestation of expansion and consolidation of influence and trust of the revolutionary state of the DRA among the masses. About sixty percent of the representatives elected for the council of peoples' power, are non-party individuals.

The state of the DRA has been persistently trying to draw to the local organs of power the most prestigious and patriotic personalities who are opposed to bloodshed and fratricide and support the humane policy of the revolutionary power based on ensuring peace throughout the country. Similarly we have been doing our best so that these strata and groups who because of different reasons have been left away from the revolutionary process and those who even oppose the revolution be called for the construction of a new society in Afghanistan.

Concerning the last part of your question it should be stated that [words indistinct] these who stop armed struggle against people's power and work to the interest of people, homeland and revolution, they can participate in the administrative organs and social organizations of the DRA in accordance with the spirit of the declaration of the Revolutionary Council and the state laws in the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan.

[Ezawa] Please give us your comments on the newly established organisation, South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) and also on the relations between Afghanistan and non-aligned countries.

[Karmal] The foundation of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) being based on the principles of peaceful co-existance and mutual cooperation aimed at the solution of the present misunderstanding and the meeting of the economic needs, prevention of tensions, strengthening of the grounds for economic and cultural development and social progress of the peoples of the region, through multi-lateral cooperation on the basis of equal rights and non-interference in each others affairs have naturally met the approval of the state of the DRA.

Resolution of the summit conference of the association held in Daka contains in itself as its main points, the banning of the arms race and production of nuclear arms, doing away with tension and improvement in international relations.

In case all the member states of the association, not India alone, implement the policy of the association not only in words but in deeds, cooperation among the seven South Asian countries would be in the interest of the people of these countries and would provide grounds for the ensurance of peace in Asia and in the Indian Ocean region.

While highly assessing the role of peace-loving India in the foundation of the (SAARC) we condemn the interventionist attempts of imperialism and hegemonism aimed at escalating tensions among the countries of South Asia and hope for the ensurance of ever-further understanding and mutual cooperation among the countries of the region.

[Ezawa] Japanese Government worries about the situation of Afghanistan. What role of Japanese Government do you expect, in particular, in diplomatic field?

[Karmal] The DRA is of the opinion that all the countries interested in the stabilization of situation in the region and world peace and security and are supporting to solution of all differences through negotiations and are opposed to the interference in the internal affairs of others, they, by adopting realistic, clear-cut and resolute position can assist in finding out a political solution for the situation around Afghanistan. Naturally if the Government of Japan or any other government wishes, can render such assistance.

Regretfully, presently the Government of Japan, through providing material, weaponry and propaganda assistance to genocidal and destructive counter-revolutionary bands vastly interferes in the internal affairs of our country.

The Government of Japan is widely involved in the undeclared war of reaction and imperialism against our revolution and people, and along with other masters of this filthy war [words indistinct] the sins of murders and devastations of counter-revolution people. In our view the people of Japan are hard-working progressive and peace-loving. It would be better if the Government of Japan too take into account the objective realities in the DRA, and in international arena demonstrate its resolute support for the political solution of the situation around Afghanistan, and refrain from any action which may create obstacles on the way of political solution.

[Ezawa] Recently *PRAVDA*, the organ of the CPSU (Communist Party of the Soviet Union), proposed positive dialogue between

the social and political powers in Afghanistan. And Gulbuddin Hakmatyar, one of the leaders of guerrillas, told Japanese reporters that on condition of Soviet consent to withdraw its forces, they are ready for talks with Soviet Union. Do you think guerrillas changed their policy?

[Karmal] The criminal ringleaders of the counter-revolutionary bands, who under the direction of the most [words indistinct] of the imperialist and reactionary countries and their intelligence agencies, the CIA at the head, act as the perpetrator of the policy of state terrorism of imperialism against our homeland, people and revolution, have no will of their own. They are just an instrument at the hands of the aggressive imperialist and reactionary forces.

Therefore, the utterances and expressions about the settlement of the issues around Afghanistan lack any kind of political value [words indistinct] the people and the state of the DRA don't pay any heed to them.

[Ezawa] Your Cabinet recently reshuffled. I hear that some of new ministers are not members of PDPA. Does this mean you want to strengthen re-conciliation-policy?

[Karmal] Yes, it is so. The state of the DRA in order to expand the social basis of the revolution, put into practice the vast participation of figures and patriotic forces in the administration of the state affairs and in the leadership of the social organisations.

The revolutionary power, with a profound knowledge of the content and the inviolable tasks of the present stage of the revolution, will not spare any efforts towards this end.

Soviet Asian-African Solidarity Committee Departs

LD151557 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 15 Jan 86

[Text] The delegation of the Committee for Solidarity with Asian and African Countries headed by Aleksandr Dzasokhov, the committee's first deputy chairman, which had come to Kabul on an official and friendly visit at the invitation of the DRA Peace, Solidarity, and Friendship Organization, departed for home.

The delegation was seen off at Kabul Airport by DRA Council of Ministers Vice Chairman 'Abdul Majid Sarboland, deputy head of the DRA Peace, Solidarity, and Friendship Organization; Abdorrahim Hatef, DRA National Fatherland Front Central Council chairman; and USSR Ambassador in Kabul Fikryat Akhmedzhanovich Tabeyev.

PDRY Prime Minister Leaves Delhi for Moscow

BK160254 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0245 GMT 16 Jan 86

[Excerpts] In South Yemen, fighting is still said to be going on in parts of the capital Aden despite claims by loyalist forces that they are gaining control of the country.

Meanwhile, the South Yemen prime minister, Mr Haydar Abu Bakr al-'Attas, who extended his stay in India following the coup attempt, left New Delhi for Moscow last night on his way back to Aden. Before his departure, Mr Haydar in a statement repeated his warning against any external interference in the internal affairs of South Yemen. He thanked the Indian government for the hospitality shown to him and his delegation during their stay in India. He also had separate meetings yesterday with the ambassadors of Syria, Algeria, North Yemen, Ethiopia, UAE and the Soviet Union.

Netherlands Queen Arrives in New Delhi 14 Jan

BK141138 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0830 GMT 14 Jan 86

[Text] Queen Beatrix and Prince Claus of the Netherlands, who are on an 11-day state visit to India, arrived in New Delhi from Goa today. They were received at the airport by the president, Giani Zail Singh; the prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi; his cabinet colleagues; members of parliament; and diplomats. A 21-gun salute was given to the royal couple on their arrival. The national anthems of both the countries were played. The queen inspected a guard of honor presented by the three services.

Later, the royal couple called on the president, Giani Zail Singh. They will visit Raj Ghat and lay a wreath at the Samadhi [cremation site] of Mahatma Gandhi. In the afternoon, Queen Beatrix and Prince Claus will call on the vice president and the prime minister. The president will host a banquet in honor of the visiting dignitaries in the evening.

Soviet Aviation Industry Minister Holds Talks

BK151418 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1230 GMT 15 Jan 86

[Text] The Soviet minister for aviation industry, Mr I.S. Silayev, who arrived in New Delhi this morning, had a meeting with the minister of state for defense production and supplies. Mr Sukh Ram.

85,000 Tamils in Sri Lanka To Receive Citizenship

HK151504 Hong Kong AFP in English 1439 GMT
15 Jan 86

[Text] New Delhi, Jan 15 (AFP) — India said today it would grant citizenship to about 85,000 Tamils in Sri Lanka in a move by the two countries to resolve the problem of stateless Tamils on the island.

An official press release said the procedure for granting citizenship to the 85,000 would be completed within six to eight months after Colombo had enacted laws to grant citizenship to about 469,000 stateless Tamils.

The stateless Tamils are mainly descendants of plantation workers taken to the island by British colonials in the last century and are not linked with the militant Tamil separatist campaign in the country.

The two countries had previously agreed to resolve the problem under two pacts signed in 1964 and 1974, but the pacts have expired after both countries took in only a portion of their agreed quotas. India was to take 600,000 and Sri Lanka 375,000.

India had stopped accepting more stateless Tamils because of the continuing ethnic violence and the flow of Tamil refugees from Sri Lanka to India, the spokesman added.

The statement said, "the Government of India will complete the processes of conferring Indian citizenship on pending applicants within a period of six to eight months of Sri Lanka enacting laws to confer citizenship on residual numbers of stateless Tamils of Indian origin."

The statement follows discussions held here last month between Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi and S. Thondaman, Sri Lankan rural development minister and president of the Ceylon Workers' Congress, which represents the plantation workers.

Negotiations also took place between India High Commissioner to Sri Lanka J.N. Dixit and Mr Thondaman in Colombo last week, the spokesman said.

ISI: Official Spokesman's Statement

BK151516 Delhi ISI Diplomatic Information Service in English 1432 GMT 15 Jan 86

[Text] The following is the full text of a statement by the official spokesman made on 15 January:

"The minister for rural industrial development of Sri Lanka and the president of the Ceylon Workers' Congress, Mr. Thondaman, during his recent visit to Bombay and Delhi had raised the question of resolving residual problems related to Tamils of Indian origin in Sri Lanka with the prime minister of India.

"Under directions from the Government of India, the high commissioner of India undertook detailed negotiations with the minister of national security, Mr. Lalith Athulath Mudali and the minister for rural industrial development; Mr. Thondaman, between the 11th and 14th of January.

"The Government of Sri Lanka has issued a statement announcing its decision to confer Sri Lankan citizenship on residual numbers of stateless Tamils of Indian origin.

"In the spirit of friendship and mutual understanding that exists between the Governments of India and Sri Lanka and with a view to resolving once and for all the problem of statelessness of Tamils

of Indian origin in Sri Lanka, the Government of India reiterates that it remains committed to the grant of citizenship to those Tamils of Indian origin who have applied for citizenship to the Government of India prior to the 30th of October 1981.

It is the understanding of the Government of India that the number of such applicants is approximately 85,000.

"India will proceed with the processes of conferring citizenship on these applicants on the clear understanding that the Government of Sri Lanka will simultaneously take necessary legislative and executive action to grant Sri Lankan citizenship to all remaining persons of Indian origin.

According to the Government of India's estimates this would entail the Government of Sri Lanka confering Sri Lankan citizenship in overall terms to 469,000 persons and their natural increase including those who have already been given Sri Lankan citizenship.

"The Government of India will fulfill its commitments in this regard on the clear understanding that the Sri Lankan Government will implement the understanding contained in their statement within the time frame stipulated therein.

The Government of India will complete the processes of conferring the Indian citizenship on pending applicants within a period of six to eight months of Sri Lanka enacting laws to confer the citizenship on residual numbers of stateless Tamils of Indian origin."

Sikh Group Claims Responsibility for Punjab Murders

HK131344 Hong Kong AFP in English 1326 GMT 13 Jan 86

[Text] New Delhi, Jan 13 (AFP) — A man claiming to speak for an underground Sikh militant group called the Dashmesh Regiment today claimed responsibility for killings in Punjab in the past week, an Indian news agency reported here today. More than a dozen people were killed last week in the troubled northern Indian state, where militant Sikhs are campaigning, often violently, for independence for their Punjab homeland.

The UNITED NEWS OF INDIA agency said the man, who identified himself as Sardul Singh, had telephoned its office in the Punjab city of Jalandhar and warned of more violence after January 26, when Punjab is to take over Chandigarh, currently the joint capital of Punjab and Haryana states. "We will take care of the Barnala government, the Akali party legislators and office bearers and their supporters after January 26," the man said.

Punjab is ruled by the moderate sikhs' Akali Dal Party, led by Surjeet Singh Barnala, which came to power after striking a deal with the federal government that ended a five-year campaign for greater autonomy for the state. Chandigarh is to become excusively part of Punjab under the terms of the deal. The Dashmesh (10th) Regiment is an underground organisation that claimed responsibility for a number of killings in Punjab during the autonomy campaign.

Visit by Iranian President, Delegation Continues

IRNA: Expansion Letter Signed

LD151057 Tehran IRNA in English 0843 GMT 15 Jan 86

[Text] Islamabad, Jan 15, IRNA — Iran will increase its oil exports to Pakistan, and boost its purchase of a wider variety of Pakistani goods in return, according to a letter of understanding signed between foreign ministers of the two countries, here Tuesday [14 January].

The letter also called for talks on joint construction of roads, railways and industry.

Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati said that there were no restrictions on the expansion of cooperation between the two countries as far as Iran was concerned.

The Pakistan foreign minister Sahebzada Yaqub Khan and Dr. Velayati signed the letter of understanding for economic, commercial, agricutural and cultural cooperation on the second day of a visit by an Iranian delegation to Pakistan.

Velayati said that details of the cooperation will be discussed in a joint commission that will meet in Tehran next month.

The agreement also calls for exchange of films, and cultural pursuits including the dispatch of Farsi language professors to Pakistan and the giving of scholarships to students of Persian literature.

Khamene'i at Lahore Reception

BK151656 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 15 Jan 86

[Excerpts] President of the Islamic Republic of Iran Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i has called upon Muslims to establish solidarity in their ranks and to strengthen the hand of Islam, because only Islam can solve their problems. Speaking at a reception in Shalimar Garden in Lahore this evening, he said Muslims should totally return to Islam and the Koran and should work for their dignity and honor. Muslims should struggle against evil and oppression and thus foil the designs of anti-Islamic elements.

Making a special reference to Allama Mohammad Iqbal in his speech, the Iranian president stressed the need for unity and solidarity among Muslims. He said he had brought a message from his leader Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni and the people of Iran to the people of Pakistan, who have claimed their country in the name of Islam under the enthusiastic leadership of Qaide Azam Jinnah. This message is a one of solidarity in the Islamic community. He told the (?gathering) that Ayatollah Khomeyni also urged the Pakistani scholars to unite, forgetting their geographic, linguistic, and sectarian differences in order to foil conspiracies against Islam and the Muslims. He paid glowing tributes to Qaide Azam, (?national) poet Allama Mohammad Iqbal, and other leaders of the Pakistan movement for their services toward the Muslim community.

Hojjat ol-Eslam Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i said Iran and Pakistan are like two brothers, and the contacts and cooperation between them will be further strengthened as time progresses. The Iranian president said the enthusiastic welcome and the great hospitality accorded to him and his delegation are because of Islam and the existing close relationship between the two countries.

Earlier, Lahore Mayor (Mian Sajaurrahman), while delivering a welcome speech, noted the religious, cultural, and historic ties between the two neighboring, brotherly countries. He expressed the hope that the friendship and cooperation between Iran and Pakistan would be further promoted by the Iranian president's current visit.

Attending the reception were President Mohammad Ziaul Haq, Punjab Governor Makhdum Mohammad Sajjad Hussain Qureshi, Chief Minister Nawaz Sharif, Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, provincial ministers, senators, members of national and provincial assemblies, councillors, and prominent citizens.

Joint Chiefs of Staff Meet

Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 15 Jan 86

[Text] The chief of the joint staff of the Iranian Armed Forces, General Esmail Sohrabi, called on the chairman of the joint chief of staff committee, General Rahimuddin Khan, in Rawalpindi this morning. They discussed matters of common interest.

Reports of Indian Aerial Survey of Glacier Denied

BK151546 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 15 Jan 86

[Text] A Defense Ministry spokesman has denied a report published in some newspapers that Pakistan has permitted Indian authorities to make an aerial survey of the Siachen glacier area. The spokesman described this report as totally baseless and misleading and said during recent talks held between the two countries' defense secretaries no accord of this sort was reached.

SRI LANKA

Deputy Foreign Minister on Middle East, Libya

BK161107 Colombo International Service in English 1030 GMT 16 Jan 86

[Text] Government does not intend to establish diplomatic relations with Israel, according to the deputy minister of foreign affairs, Tyronne Fernando. He observed that government sought assistance from the Israelis mainly due to security reasons and this in no way constituted a change in its policy of nonalignment, particularly in the policy toward West Asian countries. Mr Fernando also denied that Israeli soldiers are fighting the terrorists alongside Sri Lankan soldiers. The Israelis, he added, are involved in intelligence gathering to help Sri Lanka combat terrorism.

The deputy minister was speaking yesterday on the government's foreign policy with particular reference to the Middle East at the Hotel (Ranmutu) in Colombo under the auspices of the federation of assemblies of Muslim youths of Sri Lanka. He went on to say that Sri Lanka will support Libya's sovereignty and integrity and added that we would not interfere in the internal affairs of other countries. Mr Fernando also announced that PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat will visit Sri Lanka.

Visit of Bangladesh Foreign Minister Continues

Joint Statement Issued

BK151328 Colombo Domestic Service in English 1245 GMT 15 Jan 86

[Text] Sri Lanka and Bangladesh today agreed to broaden the scope of bilateral relations in trade and speedily implement the decisions of the joint economic committee, which met last year. A joint statement issued in Colombo at the conclusion of the visit of Bangladesh Foreign Minister Humayun Rashid Chowdhury said that the foreign ministers of the countries also agreed on the need for regular and frequent meetings at their level to review progress in bilateral cooperation.

Mr Chowdhury said that they viewed the present developments in Sri Lanka as an internal problem and that they fully supported Sri Lanka's integrity and sovereignty.

The statement said that the ministers held discussions on wide-ranging subjects covering bilateral, regional and international issues. The two sides expressed great satisfaction on the successful outcome of the first SARC [South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation] and emphasized the importance of concentrating their efforts to sustain the momentum of the process of cooperation in South Asia. Addressing newsmen at the Lopel Ceylon Inter-Continental in Colombo this morning, Mr Chowdhury said that the report of the subgroup on terrorism will be submitted to the SARC foreign ministers meeting to be held in Dhaka in March this year.

Mr Chowdhury, outlining the concept of cooperation mooted by SARC, said that there should be some coordination between tea-producing countries like Sri Lanka, India, and Bangladesh. In reply to a question, he said that relations between Bangladesh and India are excellent and bilateral problems will be settled in a cordial manner.

Mr Chowdhury announced that the president of Bangladesh, Lieutenant General Hossain Mohammad Ershad, will visit Sri Lanka this year.

Further Details

BK160206 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 0110 GMT 16 Jan 86

[Text] Bangladesh and Sri Lanka have expressed deep concern at the growing superpower rivalry in the Indian Ocean. This has been stated in a joint press release issued at the end of a 3-day visit to Colombo by Foreign Minister Humayun Rashid Chowdhury. The two sides agreed to continue their close cooperation to ensure the convening of the proposed UN conference in Colombo on the Indian Ocean as soon as possible as the first step to declare the Indian Ocean as a zone of peace. They also reviewed the entire gamut of bilateral relations covering economic, trade, shipping services, technical, educational and cultural relations. They agreed there is enough scope to broaden bilateral relations in trade and for holding urgently a meeting of the Bangladesh-Sri Lanka joint committee on trade to further develop trade relations between the two countries.

The Sri Lankan foreign minister, Mr A.C.S. Hameed, briefed Mr Chowdhury on the developments in regard to the ethnic problem in Sri Lanka. The Bangladesh foreign minister described the problem as an internal affairs of Sri Lanka. He reiterated Bangladesh's full support to Sri Lanka's integrity and sovereignty.

Prime Minister on Possible Moves for Bandaranaike

BK151153 Colombo International Service in English 1030 GMT 15 Jan 86

[Text] Prime Minister Premadasa has pointed out that Mrs Sirimavo Bandaranaike could now take one of three steps as a politician. He said that she could either contest a byelection or compel any MP of her party to resign and come to Parliament. She could also go before the courts and prove that the present Parliament was illegal.

Addressing the Executive Committee meeting of the United National Party in Colombo central yesterday, Mr Premadasa made it clear that the present Constitution enables her to take any of these steps. Referring to a statement made by Mrs Sirimavo Bandaranaike that she could eradicate terrorism within a week if she comes to power, Mr Premadasa said that if it is true she should put her proposals before the people. The prime minister recalled that the present president, when he was leader of the opposition, contested a byelection when the previous regime extended the term of Parliament. Mr Premadasa said that a comparison of the actions taken by the previous government and the present government would make it clear as to which was democratic.

India Agrees To Grant 560,000 Citizenship

BK151345 Colombo Domestic Service in English 1245 GMT 15 Jan 86

[Text] The Indian Government has agreed to grant citizenship to 560,000 persons who have applied for citizenship under the provisions of the Indo-Ceylon agreement. Based on this guarantee, the Sri Lanka Government will grant citizenship to the 92,000 persons and the children born to them after October 1964 who constitute the present stateless category. This will be in addition to the number being granted citizenship under the agreement.

A government communique issued in Colombo said that (?relevent) legislation is to be presented to Parliament next month governing the entire number of 269,000 persons who are to be granted Sri Lanka citizenship and certificates of citizenship. This process is to be completed within 18 months.

The Indian Government is trying to complete the granting of citizenship to those who have already applied within 6 or 8 months of legislation being enacted in Sri Lanka.

Diplomatic Sources on India's Stand on Tamil Refugees

BK141135 Colombo International Service in English 1030 GMT 14 Jan 86

[Text] Informed diplomatwc sources said that Indie is likely to regard the acceptance of repatriates from Sri Lanka and the return home of Lankan Tamil refugees now in India, as separate issues. A statement from India on this question is expected shortly.

Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi had said recently that it will not be possible for India to accept repatriates from Sri Lanka until all Lankan refugees in India returned home. Colombo is in contact with New Delhi on this matter and discussions between the Indian high commissioner in Colombo, J.N. Dixit, and Sri Lanka's national security minister, Lalith Athulathmudali, will continue tomorrow.

Indian Magistrate Issues Warrant Against Tamils

BK141141 Colombo International Service in English 1030 GMT 14 Jan 86

[Text] The Tamil Nadu magistrate has issued warrants for the arrest of 24 Sri Lankan Tamils, 9 of them belonging to the Tamil Eelam Army. These individuals had earlier bailed out after their arrests by the police over a riot at Vendaranyam in Tamil Nadu on 30 December. The warrants were issued after police admitted that the young men were absconding and were recalled for further interrogation. On 30 December, there were stone-throwing incidents involving the public and some Lankan Tamils when local people had protested against the harassment of residents by Lankan Tamil terrorists.

Yesterday's issue of *THE HINDU* newspaper quoted a United Nations publication as saying that resentment against Sri Lankan Tamil refugees living in camps in Tamil Nadu was growing. The latest issue of *REFUGEES*, a publication of the United Nations High Commission of the Refugees, has stated that this resentment arises from the fact that the refugees were getting a good deal from the Indian authorities. It said there were two catagories of Sri Lankan refugees — those who had settled in towns in Tamil Nadu and who managed as best as they could by themselves, and those who were in camps and supported by the government.

The publication mentions the Mandapan Camp in southern Tamil Nadu where thousands of Sri Lankan Tamil refugees have found a haven. The refugees describe the camp as a luxury camp.

Tamil Militants Attack Security Forces; 1 Killed

HK141204 Hong Kong AFP in English 1152 GMT 14 Jan 86

[Excerpt] Colombo, Jan 14 (AFP) — Tamil separatist guerrillas killed one Sri Lankan soldier and seriously wounded two others in an attack today on the security forces northern headquarters, official sources said here today. This was the first attack by Tamil guerrillas since the four main guerrilla groups announced on Sunday that their truce with the security forces was at an end.

The sources said guerrillas had fired mortars and automatic rifles at the joint army and police headquarters in the old Dutch fort in the northern capital Jaffna. The security forces retaliated, but there were no immediate reports of casulaties among the guerrillas, the sources said.

Clashes Detailed

BK151112 Colombo International Service in English 1030 GMT 15 Jan 86

[Excerpt] The Eelam National Liberation Front demonstrated the beginning of their offensive by attacking the Jaffna Fort camp in large numbers early yesterday morning, the day of the Hindu festival of Tai Pongal. The terrorists used automatic weapons, grenades, and also mortars. As a result of this terrorist attack, three soldiers were seriously hurt and were brought to Colombo. One of them later succumbed to his injury. The security forces repulsed the attack, and it is believed that several terrorists have been either killed or injured. It also possible that some civilians may have been hurt due to the cross-fire.

The security forces have stated that since terrorists had launched their offensive ending the understanding on the cessation of hostilities, the security forces henceforth will be compelled to take retaliatory action in case of terrorist attack. The general officer commanding joint operations has urged the public in the Jaffna peninsula to stay away from the terrorists and not get involved in terrorist activity. The joint operations commander, Lieutenant General Cyril Ranatunge, told LANKA PUWATH that security forces will be forced to react, and there is every possibility that civilians may come to harm if they are in the company of terrorists when the security forces are attacked.

Terrorists also launched several attacks on the Sri Lanka security forces in northern and eastern Sri Lanka on Monday. Security sources told LANKA PUWATH that six attacks on the security

forces were reported, and all attacks were effectively repulsed by the troops.

Security forces staged a successful raid in Eravur in Batticaloa yesterday and recovered a large haul of stolen government property. Security sources told LANKA PUWATH that they also arrested 25 terrorist suspects, including 3 members of the Tamil Eelam Liberation Organization.

The stolen government property belonged to the irrigation department branch at Singanadi in the Batticaloa District and had been stolen on 28 December.

Attacks Near Trincomalee

HK150819 Hong Kong AFP in English 0814 GMT 15 Jan 86

[Text] Colombo, Jan 15 (AFP) — At least 15 Tamil militants, a Navy officer and a child were killed today in a pre-dawn separatist attack on an armed forces unit south of Trincomalee in the northeast, official sources said.

Lieutenant-General Cyril Ranatunge, chief of the anti-guerrilla joint operations command said that Lieutenant Commander Shanti Bahar was killed when a grenade was thrown at him as he tried to rescue a woman and child caught within a cordon that troops had thrown to flush out Tamil militants. Commander Bahar and the child died instantly. The mother was wounded, General Ranatunge told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE, but no immediate information was available about her condition. After the grenade attack, the militants opened fire on the troops and the forces retaliated killing at least 15 militants, he said. Other security reports said that 27 militants were killed but this was not immediately confirmed. An informant who had tipped off the forces about the presence of the militants at Allakanai Village south of Trincomalee was also killed, sources said.

Majlis Speaker Praises Air Force Maneuvers

LD151812 Tehran IRNA in English 1750 GMT 15 Jan 86

[Text] Tehran, Jan. 15, IRNA — Majlis Speaker Hojjat ol-Eslam Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani Wednesday told Air Force pilots and technicians that their recent maneuvers were "an outstanding performance" and that notwithstanding economic embargo and the almost six years of an unwanted war Iran has merged with her power intact. The speaker termed the Air Force maneuvers as "unprecedented" and one of which the whole country is proud.

Elsewhere in his remarks Hoj. Rafsanjani said that the U.S. and Soviet Union's grip on the previous regime was so to total that it wouldn't dare move against their wills. He was referring to Iranian Navy's interception and inspection of British and U.S. ships in the Persian Gulf and Oman Sea over the past few days. The big powers can not stand to see a Third World country demonstrate its power, the speaker said.

Rafsanjani said that the world is now realising that the Iraqi imposed war is uniting the Islamic ummah against the global aggressors, and that those who fuel the war have become convinced that it is against their very own interests, he added.

Prime Minister Cited on Foreign Policy

LD151708 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 15 Jan 86

[Text] During today's Cabinet session, the currently implemented projects and future programs of the Industries Ministry, the project for exploring oil in the Caspian Sea, and the list of important goods, which in exchange for exports, are exempt from regulations on distribution and price fixation, were approved [sentence as heard].

It also was agreed during today's Cabinet session that a headquarters, under the prime minister industrial adviser's supervision, should be set up to pursue the plans of the revolution's 10-day [programs of the Dawn 10 days. The period marks the anniversary of Khomeyni's return, 1 February 1979, to the day of the revolution's victory, 11 February 1979].

At the conclusion of today's Cabinet session, Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi commented on the issues raised at the session and said: It was agreed to follow up seriously the project on exploration of oil from the northern regions. The prime minister added: Separation of duties allocated to the Jihad and Energy Ministries, in connection with supplying electricity requirements to rural areas, also was raised during today's cabinet session.

With regard to the recent clashes in the Democratic Republic of Yemen, the prime minister said: Restoration of peace and stability in this country will be in the region's interest.

On the outcome of our country's president's trip to Pakistan, the prime minister was interviewed by our correspondent:

[Begin recording][Unidentified reporter] You graciously referred to Mr Khamene'i's trip to Pakistan in your remarks. Please give us your evaluation and analysis of the expansion of relations between Iran and its neighboring countries and how you view this.

[Musavi] Naturally there are some aliens who wish to push us towards isolation; however, the government has always approached foreign policy issues with dynamism and attempted to expand its relations with the outside world. The purpose of the honorable president's trip is to establish deeper relations with neighboring and Islamic countries. We believe these policies are in our system and the country's future's interest. Furthermore, this visit demonstrates the justification of these relations. On the other hand, this trip can be justified by stating that as we expand our relations with these countries, we reduce the volume of relations imposed upon us by global arrogance. When you sign a transaction agreement with a neighboring country for 500 million or a billion dollars, we naturally reduce our transactions with the arrogant countries, countries which we have always tried to (?keep at a distance) in order to maintain our freedom of action.

Our historical links and cultural grounds revives our common backgrounds and once again make it possible to go toward the Islamic ummah and utilize our cultural and historical links. In addition, these links reduce our vulnerability vis-a-vis conspiracies arising from the global propaganda waged against our Islamic revolution and global arrogance's sly policies in the region. In fact, this [expansion of relations with neighbors] put us in a stronger position to make our demands on the battlefronts of the imposed war. Basically, the Islamic Republic's current policy is an appropriate political move in the world, a policy our system follows abroad. Thus, our honorable president's trip is very important in this respect, particularly as this follows a very high-level trip to Africa. We have made so much progress on these grounds that this trip has been made possible today. The cultural and political results of this trip can certainly have a great influence on the body and soul of Africa's policies and, God willing, it will be in the interest of our country's future as well.

[Reporter] Thank you. [end recording]

Tabriz: U.S., Israeli Propoganda on Terrorism

GF150945 Tabriz International Service in Azeri 1800 GMT 14 Jan 86

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] Dear listeners, using dependent media organs and its own propaganda radios last week, the U.S. Administration generated unfounded propaganda against the Islamic Republic of Iran on a large scale. Meanwhile, Israeli radio launched a campaign to present the Islamic Republic of Iran as the country the White House has described as a center that spreads terrorism. However, political observers believe that the recent propaganda offensives embarked upon by the U.S. Administration are linked to the efforts it is making to divert attention from the terrorist acts the White House has planned for the future.

Undoubtedly, as a U.S. ally, the Israeli regime — which is occupying Jerusalem — is subject to the political and military strategies of the White House. Therefore any military, political,

and propaganda move made by the Zionist regime is in accord with the objectives and interests of U.S. imperialism and international Zionism. Taking into consideration the developments that have taken place to date, the latest propaganda generated by the Israeli radio must be assessed as a part of Washington's conspiratorial offensive against the Muslims of Iran. Reagan has made it clear that in his second term as president he would try to put military, economic, political, and propaganda pressure on those countries opposing any U.S. move. As for the Western press and other media organs, they are acting as the spearheads of Reagan's policies. Just like the Israeli radio, the dependent radios are also a part of (?this campaign).

A number of political observers have described Reagan's objective behind the latest U.S. measures and the use of Western media organs to generate propaganda as being intended to pressure the Islamic Republic of Iran with a view to helping the Iraqi regime. Meanwhile, using various radios, including the Israeli radio, U.S. imperialism's propaganda organ is trying to divert attention from any future Reagan plans in order to bring pressure on the Islamic Republic of Iran.

The termination of Washington's hegemony in Iran, which once was a strong U.S. base, is the main reason the Islamic Republic of Iran is being subjected to unfounded U.S. propaganda and terrorist measures. Nevertheless, the Islamic Republic of Iran has been a source of inspiration for the struggle against U.S. imperialism waged by the Muslim peoples in the Near East.

Tehran on 'Legitimate Right' To Search Vessels

LD151422 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1115 GMT 15 Jan 86

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] In response to our country's natural and legitimate rights in stopping vessels that carry military and strategic cargo bound for the Ba'thist Iraq regime, navy patrol units have (?boarded) a number of cargo vessels, including American, British, Greek, and Panamanian ships over the past few days. Once it has been ascertained that they are not carrying any military material for the Iraq regime, they have been allowed to proceed. An American ship and a British vessel have been stopped for the first time and inspected by navy patrol units.

Regarding the inspection of the U.S. ship, a White House spokesman has said President Reagan regards the Sunday incident with serious concern, while the Soviet Union stated that the United States had gone overboard in its reaction to the stopping and searching of the ship by the Iranian Navy. The USSR added that the United States intended to escalate the Persian Gulf crisis by such actions.

The British Foreign Office also expressed concern over the seizure of the British ship, stating that this action will have an impact on freedom of navigation in international waters. The fact that freedom of navigation has been accepted as an incontrovertible right in international law and legal conventions itself enhances our country's freedom to exercise its (?legitimate) rights. Even on the basis of the 1972 Geneva Conventions, if general security is at stake, the coastal country concerned may temporarily ban the passage of neutral shipping in certain defined areas of its offshore territory.

For this reason, our country's action in exercising its natural and legitimate rights to stop and inspect ships suspected of carrying cargo which in some way conflicts with security matters is an inevitable move.

Furthermore, any actions taken have no connection with the nationality of the vessel concerned, only with dangerous cargo. Thus, the United States and Britain must bear in mind that the Islamic Republic of Iran will exercise its natural and legal right.

The Navy commander has state that Navy personnel presently maintain absolute control over the passage of ships in the Strait of Hormuz and even in the Oman Sea where ships -- many of whom are carrying military hardware for the Iraqi regime -- are in transit todischarge their cargo at some other countries. This policy has been extended to the Sea of Oman and it is Iran's right to seize suspected ships even in these waters.

Saboteurs Destroy Communications Center in Baghdad

LD141857 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 14 Jan 86

[Text] The explosion that took place in the military communications center in the Al-Dawudiyah district in Baghdad, besides cutting communications lines in a number of important military districts in Baghdad, killed or wounded dozens of the Iraqi regime's troops.

A source close to Iraqi Muslim revolutionaries, in interview given to IRNA today, described the details of the explosion at that communications complex. He said: Iraqi Muslim Mojahedin on 3 Dey [24 December] in the course of operations named after the Sinai's heroic soldier, Sulayman Khatir, led by the martyr Abu Haydar, planted a bomb containing 15 kilograms of TNT in the communications center building in Baghdad's Al-Dawudiyah district, destroying parts of that building.

The spokesman added: This communications center is situated clsoe to the Al-Shurtah tunnel and the beginning of Hayy al-'Adl Street. Its destruction cut off all communications in the Abu Ghurayb Garrison, the Al-Yarmuk Airfield and the Al-Dawudiyah district.

He also added: Thanks to that explosion, dozens of personnel of the Iraqi intelligence center and Iraqi security forces, who were entrusted with safeguarding the military communications center, were either killed or wounded. Ambulances and fire-fighting vehicles were coming and going for many hours.

The source added: The heroes who carried out these operations were mojaheds Abu Haydar and Abu 'Umran, who, during their return to their base, were chased by a number of security officers of the Saddam regime. In the ensuing clash that caused the death of some of Saddam's forces, the heroes attained the lofty rank of martyrdom.

28 Iraqi Troops Killed by Kurds 14 Jan

LD151845 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 15 Jan 86

[Text] In a surprise attack launched by Iraqi Kurdish Muslim revolutionaries in the Qara Dagh-Sulaymaniyah region, 28 Saddamist troops, including 2 officers and several NCO's, were killed. According to reports, during a 2-hour battle which took place at dawn yesterday following an ambush laid by the Iraqi Kurdish Muslim revolutionaries on the Qar Dagh-Sulaymaniyah axis, 2 Iraqi military vehicles were also set on fire.

The report, quoting informed sources, reads: During the battle, the Iraqi Kurdish Muslim revolutionaries made use of light weapons, machineguns, grenade launchers, and RPG's. This is the fifth clash in this region between the Iraqi Kurdish Muslim revolutionaries and the Iraqi Ba'thist military forces this week.

Reportage on Combat Operations in War With Iraq

Communique No 2,351

LD151558 Tehran IRNA in English 1547 GMT 15 Jan 86

[Text] Tehran, Jan. 15, IRNA — At least 25 Iraqi soldiers were killed or wounded and seven vehicles of theirs were wrecked or destroyed in the western fronts Tuesday as their positions were shelled by Iranian Muslim comoatants, [words indistinct] Staff Command of the Armed Forces here Wednesday. In its communique number 2351, the command says that 10 Iraqi artillery emplacements in the said fronts were also demolished by Iranian artillery fire.

The command says Iranian artillery fire checked maneuvers of Iraqi tanks in areas overlooking Qasr-e Shirin and Nahre-Anbar and of vehicle columns transporting Iraqi troops in Anjireh and Naft- Shahr regions Tuesday. Iraqi forces incurred substantial casualties and damage in each of the fronts.

Parts of Iraqi positions in the northwestern fronts were set ablaze and a number of Iraqi soldiers were either killed or wounded Tuesday as they were hit by Iranian artillery fire, according to the communique. Elsewhere the joint staff communique says that Iran's gendarmerie forces shelled enemy positions in parts of the fronts Tuesday silencing Iraqi artillery and inflicting substantial casualties and losses on enemy forces. Meanwhile, the city of Abadan in Khuzestan Province was hit by Iraqi long-range artillery fire Tuesday.

Clandestine Radio Reports Terrorists Leaving Country

GF151729 (Clandestine) Voice of the Liberation of Iran in Persian 1630 GMT 15 Jan 86

[Text] Our correspondent reports from Tehran that last night at midnight [2030 GMT] a terrorist group left the country. This group had previously been trained in the Qorveh terrorist camp near Hamadan under the supervision of North Korean advisers. They left Tehran aboard a military aircraft belonging to the Air Force. The terrorist group consists of 11 women and 29 men. So far there are no clear details of the flight or their route of travel.

Afghan Mujahidin Down Soviet Plane, Helicopter

GF151408 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 15 Jan 86

[Text] During operations carried out in Paktia, the Afghan Muslim revolutionaries shot down a warplane belonging to the Soviet forces. Reports indicate that the Afghan Muslim revolutionaries shot down a Soviet warplane on 9 January when the plane attempted to raid the Hasan Kheyl region in Paktia. The pilot and those aboard the plane were killed. The revolutionaries shot down a Soviet helicopter equipped with a machinegun in the city of (Safa), in Zabol Province, in southern Afghanistan on 1 January. The pilot and those aboard were killed.

USSR Troops in DRA Executed for Refusal To Fight

LD151413 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 14 Jan 86

[Text] Reports received from New Delhi indicate that during the bombing of Qandahar by the Soviet occupying forces, which took place on the 31 December, corresponding to 10th of Dey, a large number of the city's civilian population were killed. According to a West German news agency report from New Delhi, the bombing was carried out in order to avenge a surprise attack of the Afghan Muslim revolutionaries 4 days before that, during which a Soviet soldier was killed.

The same report indicates that 1 week after the bombing of the Shikashir market in Qandahar, the Soviet forces pounded a residential district of this city with their artillery fire, in the course of which one civilian was killed and several residential houses were demolished.

Other reports received from the New Delhi sources indicate that last month, 20 Soviet soldiers were executed on charges of disobeying the orders of their superior officers and refusing to fight against the Muslim revolutionaries.

Meanwhile, during the past few weeks, the Muslim Afghan revolutionaries attacked several military columns south of the Salang Pass and seized as booty a lorry load of Afghan bank notes, which had been printed in the Soviet Union.

Afghan Mujahidin Foil Attack in Herat

GF151409 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 15 Jan 86

[Text] The Afghan Muslim revolutionaries foiled an attack launched by the joint Soviet and Afghan government forces in Herat Province on 11 January. The revolutionaries inflicted heavy material damage and casualties upon those forces, 60 of whom were killed or wounded and a large number were captured. Also, six tanks and a number of ammunition dumps were destroyed. At the end of this operation, which lasted for more than 48 hours, a large number of Afghan government forces, including a Soviet officer, surrendered with their arms to the revolutionaries.